**Managing the Department**

**DATE:** December 18–20  
**LOCATION:** Orlando, Fla.  
**SPONSOR:** New York University  
**COST:** $495  
**CONTACT:** New York University, School of Continuing Education, Division of Career & Professional Development, 326 Shimkin Hall, New York, NY 10003

**Automation of Administrative Systems**

**DATE:** December 18–20—Los Angeles  
February 26–28—Atlanta  
April 23–25—Chicago  
**LOCATION:** See Above  
**SPONSOR:** New York University  
**COST:** $495  
**CONTACT:** New York University, School of Continuing Education, Division of Career & Professional Development, 326 Shimkin Hall, New York, NY 10003

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**Northeastern Illinois University—New Library Building**

On September 7, 1977, Northeastern Illinois University, located on Chicago’s northwest side, opened its new library building in time to provide library services for its fall trimester. The move into the new building had begun three weeks earlier on August 15, shortly before the end of the summer trimester. Reserve services were maintained in the old building until the end of the academic session, and reference services remained available via telephone throughout the move.

The entire collection and most of the staff and equipment were actually moved from the old to the new building in only two weeks through a contract with Library Relocation Consultants of Bloomington, Indiana. However, moving compact shelving and relocating some other shelving and furniture took a few days more.

The new library is designed to provide the 10,000 students who attend Northeastern Illinois University, its faculty, and staff with a facility that makes use of library collections and services as easy as possible. Four of the five floors are planned with a service desk located adjacent to the main entrance of the floors. Each floor also houses some portion of the collection arranged on open shelves, interspersed with comfortable study areas.

The new building has 149,815 gross square feet distributed over the five floors. Seating capacity is 1,505 distributed among various types of seating, including four-place tables, lounge-type

Northeastern Illinois University’s new library building is among the largest building projects of the university’s history.
Upon entering the new building, users have immediate access to both the general reference service desk (foreground) and the circulation service desk.

chairs, individual carrels, and private and group studies. The book storage capacity is estimated at approximately 450,000 volumes.

The entry level, or first floor of the building, emphasizes the service concept of the building. Upon entering, users can choose between a circulation service desk on one side and the general reference service desk on the other. Immediately ahead, the user finds the card catalog and, contiguous to the reference service desk, reference and general map and pamphlet collections. Also in full view as the user enters the building is the bibliographic collection, consisting of the National Union Catalog, CBI, and Books in Print.

Most of the remainder of the floor is given over to the acquisitions and catalog departments, arranged so that materials flow easily from the receiving room to acquisitions, through cataloging, and on to be shelved from the circulation area. The arrangement of the public and technical areas of the floor allows reference and catalog staffs, alike, easy access to the public catalog and to one another.

The administrative offices are also located on the first floor. Included in the administrative area is a combination conference and special collections room, where rare and valuable materials are housed.

In addition to housing a portion of the collection, the "lower level" provides a number of other facilities. The reserve book collection is circulated from a service area that allows both an "open" or "browsing" reserve collection as well as a "closed" reserve section serviced by the reserve circulation staff. In addition, the floor houses the university archives, a vending lounge for students, and a lounge for staff. This level of the library is so designed that it can be locked off from the remainder of the building and used as a study area after hours with minimal staff supervision.

The exits on both the lower level and the first floor are equipped with Tattle Tape theft detectors manufactured by 3M.

A reference service desk greets users as they get off the elevators on both the second and third floors. The second floor service desk provides periodical and documents reference service. Both collections are housed on that floor together with the majority of the microform material held by the library. Fortyeight microform reader stations are nearby. Periodicals are shelved alphabetically with unbound issues stored in a separate alphabet from bound volumes.

The third floor provides education reference service. The general education collection is housed here together with the curriculum materials collection, a demonstration collection of children's literature, textbooks, maps, charts, ralia, and nonbook materials. Staff at the service desk on the third floor also supervise a growing collection of AV equipment and materials.

The floor provides two preview rooms and a classroom for library-related instruction and audiovisual presentations. Another room will house several CRT's for use in connection with the university's academic computing program. There are also twenty-one private studies located on this floor, which will be assigned to faculty and graduate students engaged in research projects.

The fourth floor is primarily a stack and reading area. There are twenty-one more private studies in addition to a large typing room. Lounges for smokers and nonsmokers are located on several of the floors, including one each on the fourth floor. Access to the floors is available via three stair towers located at the periphery of the building. In addition, three passenger elevators serve the public, and a service elevator...
provides for the transport of books and library materials. A storage staging area is located on each floor at the entrance to the service elevator. The building is planned to be as flexible as possible. Ceiling heights (nine feet, six inches, on all floors, except on the entrance floor where the ceiling is eleven feet) have been kept uniform throughout the building to allow flexibility in seating and stack orientation. In addition, a uniform lighting-grid system, the elimination of load-bearing walls, and the location of essential services (stair towers, elevators, office areas) at the periphery of the building maintain the integrity of the thirty-foot module upon which the building is based. This also allows for great flexibility in the reorganization of internal space.

The building is carpeted throughout with a neutral beige nylon carpet. Walls are painted in shades of gray; stacks are a "dust colored" beige, and wood finishes throughout are natural oak. Tables and carrel tops throughout the building are surfaced with a laminate finish. Bright accent colors in red, orange, blue, and burgundy are introduced on the sides of the modular carrels. Lounge furniture repeats the accent colors. All chairs are Steelcase cantilever sled base with arms and bright blue upholstery.

Architect for the building was Charles E. Stade of Park Ridge, Illinois; interior design was done by Synectics Group of Chicago.

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### Fact Sheet on Northeastern Illinois University Library

**ARCHITECTS:** Charles E. Stade and Associates, Park Ridge, Illinois  
**INTERIOR DESIGN CONSULTANTS:** Synectics Group, Chicago  
**MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL CONSULTANTS:** Amsco, Chicago  
**STRUCTURAL CONSULTANTS:** Collins and Rice, Springfield, Illinois  
**LIBRARY CONSULTANT:** Robert Mueller, Queens College, Flushing, New York  
**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:** Fuller Construction Company, Chicago

**GROSS AREA:** 149,815 sq. ft. (5-story building plus penthouse)  
**NET ASSIGNABLE AREA:** 104,871 sq. ft.  
**PERCENT OF EFFICIENCY:** 70 percent  
**DIMENSIONS OF BUILDING:** 230' x 210' x 74' high  
**SEATING CAPACITY:** 1,505  
**SHELVING CAPACITY:** 450,000 volumes (est.)  

**COSTS:**  
- Building Construction: $6,042,000  
- Architectural Fees: 245,000  
- Equipment and Furnishings: 907,775  
- Miscellaneous Costs: 22,250  
- **Total:** $7,217,025

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**  
- Exterior Walls: Cocoa Brown Face Brick  
- Window Systems: Bronze anodized aluminum windows with tinted polished plate glass. Bronze anodized aluminum skylight with tinted laminate and tinted tempered glass and spandrels, glass panels.  
- Interior Finishes: Coordinated colors and textures on all exposed surfaces consisting of lath-and-plaster painted walls, with painted graphics in some areas and exposed face brick in others. Floor covering includes vinyl asbestos tile, carpet, and ceramic quarry tiles. Ceilings are of suspended acoustical tile.

**Vertical Transportation:** Three 3,500 lb. automated traveling passenger elevators; 4,000 lb. automated traveling freight elevator.

**Heating and Air Conditioning:** Forced air system with supply and return through ceiling, using hot water for heat and chilled water for cooling from university central plant. The supply air is filtered—in summer it is dehumidified and in winter, humidified. Individual zoned thermostats provide for proper space temperatures and energy conservation by eliminating costly overheating or overcooling of certain areas.

**Mechanical:** Mechanical systems for entire building are interlocked with central control panels located in existing power plant building, where all vital functions are monitored as well as controlled from a central point.

**Electrical:** The building is lighted to 70' candles, using four-lamp recessed-mounted fluorescent lighting fixtures, wired to allow two lamps in each fixture to be lighted separately to provide for energy conservation during off hours. The building is provided with a zoned fire alarm system, corrective clock system, zoned paging system, and underfloor duct raceway system.

**FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT:**  
- Bookstacks: Wilson  
- Reader Chair: Steelcase  
- Carpeting: Lee  
- Office Furniture: All Steel  
- Card Catalog Cabinets: Sjostrom  
- Tables: Richard Winter  
- Carrels: Structural Concepts  
- Detection System: 3M Company  
- Lounge Furniture: Jack Cartwright, G. W. Furniture
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Date of Publication: October, 1978
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